THE GENESEE FARMER.

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N. GOODSELL, EDITOR.

ON FARMER'S REPORTS.

By reference to the sixth page of our last number, our readers may convince themselves of the importance of practical men communicating to each other the results of their several farming operations. We should be led to conclude from the silence of some of our good farmers, that they thought it improper to write for a public paper, unless they had actually seen the sea serpent, or the great comet, or discovered the source of the Niger. Now which would benefit us most to discover, the source of a river in Africa, or the manner of increasing the quantity or quality of our wheat, corn or potatoe crops, or a method by which they might be raised at less expense? We are not to look for perfect revolutions in Agriculture: if a person can make but one small improvement in any thing appertaining to Agriculture or the Arts, during his life time, and communicates that to the public, he has a satisfaction, unknown to him, perhaps, who has conquered armies, or waded to a throne in blood. The members of the Agricultural and Horticultural Societies in the neighborhood of Boston, are giving to our country incontestible evidence that they are pursuing the right road to improvement; and although we do not consider the climate and soil of Massachusetts generally equal to what they are in the State of New-York, yet we must acknowledge that they have more public spirited, scientific Agriculturists and Horticulturists than any other part of the Union; men that read more, write more, and publish more; and of course are doing more good to the community. We have a few individuals in the state of New-York, of whom our nation may be proud, who are almost daily laboring for the public; but yet our number is not so great in proportion to our population as in Massachusetts. Now this should not be so.—Let our farmers think of this; let them think they are the back bone and muscle of society, and that they are the men that should give tone to public opinion, and have a voice in directing our national bark. Let them pursue their avocation with pride, reflecting that it was the employment of the days of innocence, and was taught by God himself to Adam, ere the earth was commanded to bring forth thorns and thistles for his transgressions.

If our farmers would accustom themselves to keeping accounts of particular crops, they would find many advantuges resulting to themselves from the practice. They would be enabled to calculate with more accuracy the net profit attending the cultivation of each crop, and transcripts from such memorandums, published in any of our Agricultural papers, would be of great public utility. We consider the reports of Messrs. Williams, Perkins, Wilson and Sprague, as the most profitable kind of Agricultural memorandums; and we would be glad if our readers would furnish us with a sufficient number of such to fill one of our pages continually. We know that many will excuse themselves by saying, that "they cannot write in a style suitable for publication, and that the printer would never be able to read it." Never mind the style; be assured that what one farmer writes others are anxious to read, without regard to the writing; and as to the reading of the manuscript, leave that to us, and if we are not able to find it out, we will either come or send to have it explained. If one quarter of our readers, who are practical farmers, will devote one hour in the year to giving us for publication the results of his own operations or experiments, it would contribute much to the usefulness of our paper, and we think that each writer would find himself sufficiently rewarded for his time in perusing the communications of others. We ask for the experiment.

The following are extracts from a lettter from our esteemed friend and correspondent, DAVID THOMAS, dated *Greatfield*, 8 mo. 28, 1832:

MILDEW ON GRAPES.

None of my exotic grapes are mildewed. I have a part on the trellis and part on the ground, but this season I discover no difference; and ascribe this exemption to the dry weather which succeeded the time of their flowering. I have been told that in some parts of France, they train their vines very near to the ground; but whether to prevent the mildew or for some other purpose, I have not been informed. Thou may recollect that my grapes on the trellis were much damaged last season, at the height of one foot or more, while those near the ground, on the same vines, were generally free from mildew.

STRAWBERRIES.

The Methven strawberry is very large and productive; but if I may judge from the small number which I had this season, I think the flavor will be found much inferior to several other kinds. I had heard many encomiums on this fruit, but had not attended to its deficiency of flavor until this summer when I tasted mine. On referring to Prince's Pomological Manual, I find that the Methven has not a high character.—"The fruit is very large" but "tasteless with a large hollow in the center."

The effect of climate on the flavor of strawberries, is probably not so great as on their productiveness. About five years ago I obtained the Lima and the Downton. Of the first, Prince says, "It is a tolerably good bearer;" and of the second, "This is a tolerably productive sort;" and I am not inclined to doubt that in other places they may be valuable. With us, however, they are not worth cultivating, except as curiosities; and I am willing to dispense with them even on this score. From a bed of the Lima three feet wide and fifteen feet in length, it has been difficult at any one time to procure half a dozen ripe strawberries. The Downton is rather more productive.

THE CHINESE MULBERRY.

The Chinese mulberry (*Morus multicaulis*) is a plant of singular appearance, and many, who mean not to raise silk worms, would be pleased with it as a curiosity. Mine were planted last spring; and we cannot expect them to be as vigorous as those which are well rooted; yet some of the leaves are thirteen inches long, exclusive of the footstalk, and nearly eleven inches wide. Though the leaf is remarkably thin, the branches are encumbered and loaded.

I may never attend to the business of raising silk worms, but I wish to increase these trees as fast as I can for the purpose of planting a mulberry orchard. Should I succeed with this, probably I shall find some person either willing to rent it, or take it on shares. A new class of laborers in this line are soon to rise up among us; and in my opinion, landholders may make a profitable investment of capital in mulberry orchards.

From Prince's Treatise on the Vine.

FRONTIGNAC, AND OTHER MUSCAT GRAPES.

The grapes of this class are celebrated for their high musk flavor, and are among the most estimable for the table. Some of the varieties are used in particular districts of France for sweet wines, and are also applied to a similar purpose in other countries, as will be pointed out hereafter.

In consequence of a higher value being set on the varieties of the Muscat in France, and they being also more rare in the collections than most other kinds, greater inaccuracies, and more deceptions have been experienced in the importation of them, than in those of any other class.

The epithet *Apiana*, given to some grapes, and especially to the muscats, seems to be intended more particularly to designate the varieties which the honey bees attack, as the word appears to be derived from *Apes, or Apium*, bees.

WHITE FRONTIGNAC.—PR. CAT. No. 77.

Muscat blanc, Duh.
Muscat blanc de Frontignan.
Muscat bianca.

Vitis *apiana aciono medio, subrotundo, albido, moschato*,—DUH.

This is a highly esteemed grape for the table, the leaf is not deeply serrated, but it is of a darker green, and more acutely dentated, than that of the white chasselas. The five lobes which divide it are unequal, the middle one being much broader than the others; the bunch is long, narrow, almost conical, and terminates in a point; it does not swell out at the top like the chasselas, nor have shoulders as that generally does.

The berries which are about the size of the chasselas, are in general very closely set, so that some persons thin them out in order to advance their maturity; their form is a little elongated, and rather larger at the head than at the extremity.

The skin is firm and crackling; light green, with a slight bloom, and of an amber hue on the sunny side. The pulp is melting, white with a bluish cast, and of a high and exquisite musk flavor. The seeds are small, white, marbled with gray or violet, and ordinarily three or four in number in each berry.

Formerly, a great deal of wine was made from it at Frontignan, Rivesaltes, and Lunel, but at present, very little is made at those places. It has much body, and a decided taste of the fuit, with a fragrant bouquet, and is said to improve by age. That usually sold in our wine stores, I presume, is of a secondary quality.

The Parisians complain that it rarely attains to perfect maturity in their climate, and that it requires the warmth of the south to perfect its exquisite flavor. It is sufficiently ripe in the south of France about the first of August; and it is customary at the city of Aix to make use of it on the sixth of that month, at the metropolitan festival, on the day of the transfiguration, when, after blessing a number of baskets of this fruit, the finest clusters are selected, and the juice expressed into the sacred chalice, after which, the residue are distributed to those who assist in the ceremony.

It is cultivated considerably in the grape houses in the vicinity of Boston, ripening a little later than the chasselas. I do not recollect having there seen it subjected to open culture, but I saw fruit of later muturity under successful management. In the vicinity of New-York, it ripens in September, and I consider it one of the most luscious and desirable grapes with which our tables can be furnished.

NOTE.—From the manner in which Mr. Prince speaks of the cultivation of this grape, in the vicinity of Boston, the reader might infer that he had not seen it subject to open culture, in which sense we presume he did not mean to be understood, for, with the exception of the Munier, we have not found any variety of foreign grapes that endure the winters of this vicinity with less injury. As to the quality of the fruit, its superiority has been acknowledged over every other specimen which has been presented at our Horticultural exhibitions. To those who would cultivate foreign grapes for the table, we would recommend the White Frontignac in preference to any other variety with which we are acquainted. We do not recommend it for vineyards. as we believe all European varieties will be subject to the mildew, after a few years in open culture. It is an object, therefore, to procure those varieties which produce fruit young; and in this point we think the White Frontignac excels, as we set many young vines last fall, which were from six inches to a foot long above ground, many of which have produced from one to four bunches of fine fruit this season.

OSWEGO AGRICULTURAL MEETING

The *Oswego County Agricultural Society* will meet in the village of Oswego, at the Welland House, kept by U. G. White, Treasurer of the Society, on Thursday the 27th day of September next, at ten o'clock, A. M.

Members of the Society are expected to give punctual attendance. Those wishing to become members, and the friends of Agriculture generally, in the county are invited to be present on that day.

Several of our enterprising farmers intend on that occasion, to exhibit at their own charge, choice animals and products of the farm and garden. The Society is yet in its infancy, and can offer no premiums. All it can do at present is to call on the Farmer to aid the Society by his presence, and by adding his name to the list of its members, and if he chooses to exhibit stock, produce, or articles of household manufacture at the appointed day.

By order of the Board.

WM. M. CHEEVER, *Pres't.*

O. STEELE, *Secretary.*

WESTERN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

PREMIUMS, offered by the "*Domestic Horticultural Society of the Western part of the State of New-York,*" to be adjudged at their stated meeting, to be held at CANANDAIGUA, on Thursday the 27th day of September next, for specimens to be presented to the meeting, viz:

FRUITS.

For the best doz. of apples for table,	$1,00
For the best doz. of winter apples,	1,00
For the best doz. of pears for table,	2,00
For the best doz. of winter pears,	1,00
For the best doz. of peaches,	2,00
" 2d do. doz. " do.	1,00
For the best doz. of plums,	2,00
" 2d do. doz. " do.	1,00
For the best dozen of quinces,	1,00
For the best specimen of table grapes, not less than 2 lbs.	2,00
For the 2d best table grapes,	1,00
For the greatest variety of table and wine grapes,	2,00
For the best specimen of native grapes,	1,00
For collecting and presenting the greatest variety of native uncultivated grapes, with a specimen of the branch and leaves of each not less than six varieties,	3,00
For the best watermelon,	,50
For the best muskmelon,	,50

CULINARY VEGETABLES.

For the best cauliflower 2 plants,	1,00
For the best brocoli do.	1,00
For the best cabbage,	,50
For the best half peck of potatoes,	1,00
For the six best turneps,	1,00
For the six best blood beets,	1,00
For the six best carrots,	,50
For the four best plants of celery.	1,00
For the best quart of beans, shelled,	1,00

FLOWERS.

For the most beautiful specimens of flowers, whether of herbaceous plants or shrubs, extending to 3 sorts, each,	1.00

Discretionary premiums to be awarded for any valuable fruit, culinary vegetables or flowers, not exceeding three in number.

Every specimen offered of fruits, culinary vegetables and flowers, must have been cultivated by the person claiming the premium, or by some member of his family; and no premium can be allowed unless the full quantity above required be produced; and premiums will be awarded to members of the society only, or some person in their family.

Canandaigua, August 27, 1832.

JOHN GREIG,
FR. GRANGER,
A. DUNCAN,
M. H. SIBLEY,
WM. BLOSSOM,
OLIVER PHELPS,
JAMES D. BEMIS,
} *Committee.*

N. B. Editors of papers in Monroe, Livingston, Wayne, Seneca and Ontario Counties, will confer a favor on the society by publishing the above notice.

HORTICULTURAL.

During the week ending Sept. 1st, there has been exhibited for the inspection of the Committee of the Monroe Horticultural Society, the following choice fruits:

Plums—Green gage, Bolmar, Washington. Prince's gage, Coe's Golden [illegible], three different varieties of seedling gage, four varieties of seedling red Egg plums, all of which were large and fine flavored. White Bonum Magnum, Orleans, and a seedling supposed to be from Cooper's large, but superior to that in size.

Apples—A fine variety, consisting of Bow, Durham Sweetings, Summer Greenings, &c.

Peaches—Green Nutmegs, early Newington, Grosse Mignonne, and a seedling of the yellow variety, of superior size and flavor.

AGRICULTURAL PAPERS.

We noticed some time since the first number of a new agricultural paper, entitled *Tablets of Rural Economy*, to be published at Newburgh.—We have received but two numbers of this paper.

The *Virginia Farmer* is the title of a paper recently commenced at Scottsville in that state.

We have also received Nos. 1 and 2, of the *Northern Farmer*, published at Newport, N. H. once a fortnight.

The Southern Planter is to be commenced at Macon, Georgia, the first of this month.

☞ THE MONROE HORTICULTURAL AND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES will hold their annual meeting and exhibition at the Court House in Rochester, on Saturday the 22d of September instant, at 10 o'clock, A. M. when an address will be delivered before the two Societies.

CIRCULAR.

At the Meeting of the Monroe County Agricultural Society, on the 30th June, a resolution was adopted, directing the Secretary to prepare a Circular, soliciting information on the following subjects:

1. What proportion of the arable land of a farm ought to be devoted to raising Grains? and what proportion should the various kinds bear to each other?
2. What rotation of crops is most profitable to pursue?
3. What course of tillage is best for each crop?
4. What is the best time and manner for applying manure to the different crops?
5. What quantity of seed per acre is most profitable for different crops, and how prepared?
6. Whether summer fallows are of sufficient benefit to defray the extra expense?
7. What quantity of stock will be found profitable to keep on a given number of acres, (say 100) and what proportion of each?
8. What are the advantages to be derived from fall ploughing, and what kind of soil is most benefited by it?
9. What grasses are found most profitable on different soils, and at what time should they be sown?
10. What are the advantages to be derived from using plaster or gypsum on different soils, and when and how should it be applied?

Written answers to any or all of the above questions, are solicited—to be sent or handed in to the Secretary, on or before the annual meeting of the Society which is to be held on the 22d of September inst. N. GOODSELL, *Sec'y.*

Rochester, Sept, 5. 1832.

Jackson Apple.—An Appie, raised in the garden of Mr. John Dobbin, of this village, has been left at our Bookstore. It weighs twenty-nine ounces, and measures 16 inches in circumference.—*Geneva Gaz.*

From the American Farmer.

WHEAT TURNING TO CHEAT.

Stanardsville, Va. July 2, 1832.

Mr. Smith—As there has been much controversy in your paper, upon the subject of wheat turning to cheat, I have been particular in examining a very great many bunches of cheat, that I might afford some assistance to those who believe with me that wheat will turn to cheat. I have now in my possession a bunch of cheat with the seed grain (or husk) of wheat adhering to one of the main roots of the cheat. I have shown it to several practical farmers, to whose opinions every respect is due, and who agree that it ought to convince the most sceptical persons. Should you desire it, I may (should an opportunity offer) send it to you. Respectfully,

John F. Conway.

[The above should have appeared sooner, but was mislaid. We shall be very glad to see the specimen of *cheat* with the husk of wheat adhering to it, and hope Mr. Conway will do us the favor of sending it to us. We also have seen many specimens of cheat with the shell or husk of the old seed adhering to them; but we never left them till we clearly identified them as the seed of the cheat. The seed swells greatly, and this gives it very much the appearance of wheat. —*Ed. Am. Farmer.*]

From the Massachusetts Agricultural Rep and Jour

On the effect of stirring the surface of the earth, as a relief against drouth.

This is a trite subject, and one, which we are aware has been long since settled by intelligent cultivators in all countries. It is very familiar to gardeners, and the cause of the very superior production of gardens over field culture may be attributed in part to the more frequent application of the hoe and spade. Yet it is true, that a very great number of farmers deny the proposition, and disapprove the practice. They think it dangerous to plough and hoe, in the time of extreme drouth and heat, while our own experience of twenty years has convinced us, that it is much superior as a remedy, against drouth, than watering in the limited manner, in which that must always be applied.—There has never been a season in our memory in which there was a greater necessity for the application of *all* remedies against drouth than the *present*. The drouth was not only of longer duration, but it took place, when plants were the least able to resist it, not having sent their roots in quest of nourishment far, wide, and deep. The early foliage, also, is more tender, and more liable to wilt under a scorching sun and a drying wind.

In this extraordinary season, I had a small patch of early potatoes planted in a warm and sandy soil purposely to procure an early crop; the soil was, at least, three quarters pure sand, mixed with some food for plants among the sand. The severe drouth threatened a total loss of the crop. The potatoe stalks were feeble, drawn up, scarcely larger than goose quills, and I expected every day to see them wither; all hopes of a crop were abandoned. I thought, that they were the fair subjects of a *desperate* experiment.—On one of the hottest and driest days, I gave them a thorough ploughing, passing the plough four times through each row; first ploughing two furrows from the hills, as near the roots as possible, without throwing out the seed potatoes, and then returning the loam, or earth, instantly back by two other furrows. No rain intervened for ten days. In three days after, the potatoes changed their color, they started afresh, as if they had received the benefit of ample showers, while not a drop of rain had fallen.

The dews, which were abundant, settled upon the new turned earth, while, before the ploughing, no moisture had been apparent.

The last fact, though it cannot have escaped the notice of the most careless cultivator, has not been as yet explained. We can easily see, that a soil, rendered porous, would more readily and easily convey its moisture to the roots. It becomes like a sponge, and is readily permeable, or rather readily permits the moisture to pass between its particles. But it is not yet understood why it attracts the moisture. Perhaps, however, it may be owing to its presenting a much greater surface to the moist air of the night. The fact, however, which is what *most concerns us*, is settled. Perhaps some of the experiments of our distinguished countryman, Dr. Wells, a physician of London, who rendered himself distinguished by his remarks on dew, may tend to explain this fact, though it is not my purpose now to examine the theory.

Every man, who feels an interest in the question, can satisfy himself, at once, by stirring a small piece of earth in a time of severe drouth, and if he does not find it in the morning more filled with moisture, than the undisturbed ground in its vicinity, let him continue a disbeliever.

But there is another mode, and it is one which I have never seen suggested, by which I apprehend the stirring of the surface, and making it light and porous, is beneficial in great drouths. It is this: light porous bodies are bad conductors of heat; perhaps because they have more air between their interstices. The facts are familiar to us. Metallic bodies acquire an intense heat under the rays of the sun, so do stones in proportion to their density. The earth, when very compact, will become exceedingly hot, but garden loam, which is very porous, remains cool at noon day, two inches below the surface. I believe, therefore, that moving the surface, and keeping it in a light and porous state, enables it to *resist the heat of the sun's rays*, that the air between the particles of earth communicates the heat more slowly than the particles themselves do, when in close contact.

Such is my *theory;* but I am an enemy of theories, I always distrust them, I look only to facts; and having observed that a slight covering of half an inch of sea weed would preserve my strawberries from drouth, which can only arise from its lying so loose on the surface, I have been led to infer, that the *undoubted fact*, that soil in a loose, pulverized state resists drouth, is *owing to the same cause*, to wit, the slowness with which the heat of the solar rays is communicated to the roots. But be the theory sound or unsound, I am persuaded that every farmer will find that the free use of his plough and hoe, in times of severe drouth, will be of more value to him than as much manure as that labor would purchase. I have been always convinced from my experience as an horticulturist, that the great secret in cultivation consists in making the soil porous.—In raising exotic plants we know it to be true, and our flower pots are always supplied with soil, the most porous which we can obtain. The farmer may borrow light from an occupation which he looks upon with disdain, but which serves to elucidate and explain the secrets of vegetation. J. L.

DEEP AND SHALLOW PLOUGHING.

To the Trustees of the Essex Agricultural Society:

Having learned that you had offered a premium, the present year, for the most satisfactory experiment in ascertaining the relative advantages of deep and shallow ploughing, I have been induced to offer for your examination the following statement:

In the autumn of 1815, my field was ploughed by the teams that contested for the premiums of your Society. It was laid out in lots of one quarter of an acre each. The land is level, and free from rocks. The soil is gravely and shallow, and only of middling quality. It had been in grass four years previous, and never had been highly manured. The common burden of grass produced upon it was not more than one ton to the acre. The whole field ploughed contained two acres and a half, one acre of which was ploughed in the spring of the present year; and on this part was the best crop. That which was ploughed in the preceding autumn at the ploughing match was well harrowed in the spring, and furrowed, eight rows to the lot, two rods wide. Twelve ox loads of manure were put to the acre, in the holes. The manure was a mixture of the droppings of horses and neat cattle, in about equal quantities, taken from the barn yard. The ground was planted with Indian corn, from the 10th to the 12th of May. The eight rowed corn, and that which is commonly cultivated in this vicinity, was the kind planted. It was hoed three times in the usual manner. Every part was managed as nearly similar as possible. Each lot was gathered and accurately measured by itself. Lots No. 2 and 3, were the most gravely, and most exposed to the drouth; and the whole field suffered considerably for want of moisture. I am of the opinion that it would have been highly beneficial to have cross-ploughed the land in the spring.—The following is the product of each of the lots:

No. 1, ploughed by 28 furrows, 4 1-2 inches deep, situate on the western side, yielded twenty and a half bushels of ears.

No. 2, ploughed by 28 furrows, 6 inches deep, yielded nineteen bushels of ears.

No. 3, ploughed by 22 furrows, 8 or 9 inches deep, yielded twenty-three bushels of ears. This ploughing was apparently deeper than the soil; but in the latter part of the season the crop suffered much less by the drouth than either of the lots; and had the soil been as good, the crop would have been much superior.

No. 4, ploughed by 28 furrows, 6 1-2 inches deep, yielded twenty-two and a half bushels of ears.

No. 5, ploughed by 28 furrows, 6 inches deep, yielded twenty-one bushels of ears.

No. 6, ploughed by 36 furrows, 6 1-2 inches deep, yielded twenty-two and a half bushels of ears. The soil of this lot was rather better than the other parts of the field.

From the result of this experiment, my opinion is decidedly in favor of ploughing our lands much deeper than is usually practised by our farmers. Especially is it beneficial on lands liable to be injuted by the drouth. EBENEZER BERRY.

COMMUNICATIONS.

FOR THE GENESEE FARMER.

CONVERSATIONS ON HORTICULTURE—NO. V.

E. Ought we to kill the birds that eat our fruit?

B. If the right to do so, is questioned, I would ask if we ought to kill the crows that destroy our corn? or the rats that infest our granaries?

E. O, no farmer has any doubts on that score. Self-preservation is the first law of nature; but some doubt the propriety of killing birds that only come to eat our cherries, or our raspberries.

B. Some persons get their bread by raising grain, and others by selling cherries and raspberries. Now if self-preservation is the law, it will justify the destruction of the grossbeak for eating cherries, as much as it will justify the destruction of the rat, or of the crow for eating grain; and the application of the law is just the same, whether we raise the fruit for our own use, or whether we raise it for others' use.

E. But do you think it right to kill the innocent birds that come round to sing for us, merely because they take a little fruit?

B. If they were *innocent* of taking my fruit, —or if they only took *a little* fruit when I had it in abundance, and which I could spare without inconvenience, I would think it *best* not to kill them. Birds that eat our fruit, however, are of two classes:—those that feast on our labors without doing any thing in return,—as the grossbeak and the cedar* bird; and those that destroy many noxious insects, and take their pay in fruit,—as the robin and the red-headed woodpecker. We are the judges whether they take too much or not. We are to decide whether we can afford to employ them on such terms.—Yet I would grant favors to the robins which I would withhold from my enemies, the cedar birds.

E. Birds that only come to that "common feast for all that lives," as *Thomson* calls it, ought not to be considered as *enemies.*

* This notice of the cedar bird would not do justice, were we solely to rely on *Audubon's* authority. This eminent naturalist says, "They are excellent fly-catchers also, spending much of their time in the pursuit of winged insects This is by way of dessert, and is not managed with the vivacity or suddenness of true fly-catchers, but with a kind of listlessness. They start from the branches, and give chase to the insects, ascending after them for a few yards, or moving horizontally towards them, and as soon as the prey is secured, return to the spot, whence they continue watching with slow motions of the head. Towards evening, this amusement is carried on for half an hour, or an hour at a time; and it is continued longer at the approach of autumn, the berries then becoming scarcer."

These remarks refer to the cedar bird during its residence in Louisiana. It is possible that it may have the same habits *at times*, in our part of the United States; but I have never observed the least indication of the kind. In order to discover whether insects were a part of their food, or not, I had the stomachs of several of these birds examined expressly for the purpose, within a few days and not a trace of any insect could be found. It is true, that fruit, such as they like, is plenty at this time, and so it is commonly during their stay with us. For our districts I therefore consider the remark of *Wilson* to be more applicable: "Before the cherries are ripe, they are lean; and little else is found in their stomachs than a few shrivelled cedar berries, and a few fragments of beetles, and other insects, *which do not appear to be their common food.*"

B. I will not contend about a word; their case differs not from that of the crow, or of the rat, if the property destroyed is of equal value. None of them ever visit us bu for plunder; and those who take that view of this subject, appear not to discriminate between the fruits which grow wild, and the fruits of the garden which require labor and expense, which are not,—and which ought not to be,—"common." Our right to the fruit which we cause to grow, is as full, and as exclusive, as our right to the corn which we cause to grow; and we have as much right to defend the one as the other, from depredators of every description.

E. Am I to understand, then, that you would spare the robins on the same cherry tree from which you would shoot the cedar birds?

B. I have done so; and I would do so as long as I had fruit to spare; but if the numbers were disproportionately great to my quantity of fruit, and I could not spare it, I would not hesitate to lessen their numbers.

E. That is, you would kill them. O that would be barbarous!

B. I would only justify myself by the necessity of the case It would not be more *barbarous*, however, than to kill chickens; and one chicken for destroying insects, is worth half a dozen robins.

E. In a garden that may be true, because you confine the chickens exclusively to that place,—while the robin feeds in the fields and the woods, and does so little in any one place that his labor is scarcely perceived. Still you ought not to forget his services.

B. No, I would not forget his services; neither can I forget my own when I grow fruit which he plunders. If he does me more good than harm, I ought to save him. I am fond of robins,—that is, I like to have a few to sing for me, just as I should like to have a few Canary birds; and I would agree to a moderate expenditure on both; but in all cases, as soon as they become too burdensome I would lessen their numbers.

E. I can't agree with you. I hold them "sacred* to the household gods," as Thomson says, and would sooner give up my fruit than injure them——

B. And give up the chickens which are six times as serviceable to be cooked. I have as much right to kill a robin as I have to kill a chicken. I have as much right to kill a robin that injures me to the full amount of his services, as I have to kill a patridge which never served nor annoyed me, and which every man who carries a gun is eager to shoot. If the robin is saved while the patridge is killed it shows that *prejudice* affords a better protection than *innocence.*

E. You think too much of your fruit.

B. I estimate it no higher than the farmer estimates his grain, and none questions his right to defend his crops. *A proper regard to the works of our Great Creator, however, will cause us to spare the life of every animal whose death is not necessary to our comforts.* The pious Cowper would not number among his friends

——"the man
Who *needlessly* sets foot upon a worm;"

yet he said in regard to inferior animals,

——"man's claims
"Are paramount, and must extinguish theirs,"

adding with reference to their destruction,

"A *necessary* act incurs no blame."

* The robin of England, or the red breast, to which this quotation refers, belongs to a different family of birds, although it appears that *some* of the partiality for *our* robin is derived from the name through the medium of "the Babes in the woods."

E. You have surprised me: I did not suspect you would shoot the birds that we all love so much to have singing in our gardens and orchards.

B That is a mistake,—in part. We have three classes of birds; and to one class no person is more friendly than myself. I protect them as far as it is in my power—have built barriers of sweet briars to keep off the cats from their nests—and would no sooner shoot one, than I would shoot a young chicken.

E. You have not named the class.

B. True. It contains the birds that never plunder us,—such as the swallow, the blue bird, and *our* whole tribe of sparrows. They are not neutrals, merely abstaining from mischief: they are our best friends, by feeding on our enemies.

E. You mean noxious insects.

B. I do. And the man who would destroy one of these birds, for sport, or to show his skill as a marksman, must be destitute of some important moral principles; and I should be apprehensive of his committing other crimes when he could do so with impunity.

E. It seems to me that you make too much difference in the treatment of the swallow and the robin.

B. Not more than civilized nations have generally made between the peaceable citizen, and him who takes his neighbor's property without leave. I should be satisfied to banish the robins when they become too troublesome; and would only resort to the gun because it is the only practicable method by which we can reduce them.

E. With your partiality for birds, why do you argue so strenuously in favor of destroying them?

B. I only argue that cultivators may use their right reason. I have mentioned the robin in particular, because it is a favorite. I have not killed one in twenty years, because they have not visited me as they have some of my neighbors, in destructive flocks. Yet I would not submit to have all my small fruits from the cherry to the grapes in the garden, destroyed by robins.—My neighbors ought to be guided by a similar determination; and when birds of any kind, become too numerous and ravenous, they ought to assist in lessening their numbers. X.

FOR THE GENESEE FARMER.

LIGHTNING RODS.

Mr. Goodsell—A correspondent in your last makes some inquiries respecting lightning rods, which I propose endeavoring to answer. The subject is one quite too much neglected, and by no class more than the agriculturists. Barns, from the nature of their contents, particularly in the fall, may be regarded as especially liable to damage by lightning, if not protected. The heat generated by hay, &c. imperfectly dried, sends up, from every barn, soon after it is filled, a column of rarified air, loaded with moisture, which serves the purpose of a conductor of the

electric fluid. It is to this cause I attribute the very frequent destruction of barns by lightning. Such buildings should always be protected by rods, although they seldom are. The writer in question, however, seems disposed to protect his, and if I can assist him in the detail I shall be gratified.

The chief points of inquiry of your correspondent are, (I do not quote his words,)

First—What is the radius of the circle protected by a lightning rod?

Second—What should be the size of the rod?

Third—How high should the rod rise above the building?

Fourth—How deep should it penetrate the ground?

Fifth—How should it be fastened to the building.

The first inquiry, in order, is, perhaps, the most difficult of *positive* solution. A principle has been adopted and pretty extensively adhered to, in relation to this, namely, that a good lightning rod will effectually protect a circle whose radius is twice the height of the conductor. To this rule there are probably many exceptions, arising from local causes, as the column of moist, rarified air, &c. Consequently very exposed buildings should be farther protected. This is easily done by elevating two or more rods above the roof, and join them all to one, only, which descends to the earth. Should but one stem be raised above the roof of a barn, that one should be placed over the principal deposite of such material, in the barn, as will be most like to evolve heat and moisture.

Size of the rod. This must be such as that in the most violent explosions, the fluid may be so rapidly conducted as not to allow it to acquire a *repulsive* force sufficient to cause it to fly off, and fall upon other conductors. Upon most occasions, perhaps, no more than a large wire would be required, but to provide for every emergency, a rod of equivalent content to one inch square should be used.

Lightning rods *should* rise from twenty to thirty feet above the highest part of the building, (according to the size of the building and the number of rods) but they are seldom so lofty.—The best form for this part of the rod is square, tapering in size from the base to the top. It should terminate, above, either in three points of silver or platina; or in a copper end, cone shaped and gilded. The former is preferable.

The depth to which the rod should enter the earth is wholly to be determined by circumstances. If *permanent* water is at hand terminate the rod in that: if not, it must enter the earth. The object of this is to reach water—of course it must penetrate below the point at which the ground, at the place in question, is ever dried.—After sinking some two feet into the ground, the rod should be bent somewhat from the foundation of the building, and continue that direction to the end. The part of the rod beneath the soil will be assisted in its duties, and preserved from rust, by being surrounded by charcoal.

The method of fastening rods is frequently insecure, and fatal consequences too often ensue. Iron fastenings are usually employed, driven into the timbers of the building. These, in some instances, have conveyed the fluid from the rod, and caused it to explode, with mischief. Such fastenings should be separated from the rod itself, by some non-conductor, as glass, &c. Probably, if the points of such fastenings were made to communicate, in any way, with wires or rods of metal which return to the rod, the danger would be averted. Glass may, however, easily be made to surround the rod, at each fastening, and prevent contact, which is all that is requisite. Any large masses of metal there may be in the building, such as metal pipes, gutters, &c. should, for greater security, be connected with the rod.—Bell wires, too, which often extend to every apartment, should be thus connected; as the fluid, should it enter the house, will pursue them, through all their windings, and may thus be conducted out in safety. All rods should be frequently examined, to see that the points have not been melted into globules, by the fluid, that the rod is well joined in every part, (for it may fall asunder at a joint, or rust off at the surface of the ground) and that at all the proper points, glass or some other non-conductor secures the fluid from passing off, improperly. H.

☞The writer of the above says in a private note—

"My signature I perceive is the same of his whose queries I have attempted to answer.—The fact *may* create confusion; notwithstanding which I have ventured to retain the H., it being the letter by which I have always designated the trifles I have sent you."—We shall hereafter, change the signatures of correspondents, so that there shall be no two writers with the same.

FOR THE GENESEE FARMER.

TRANSPLANTING TURNEPS.

Four or five years ago, Judge RICHARDSON of Auburn showed me a patch of fine turneps in his garden which had been transplanted. Many persons are familiar with transplanting the French and Swedish turneps, but those were of the common kind. For field culture, the practice might be too expensive; but a few square perches of rich sandy soil in a garden may be made to produce turneps enough for a family; and if the turnep-fly is destructive in one part of the patch, the supernumeraries in another part may be profitably made to supply the vacancies.

I set out some, a few days ago, which are growing well. D. T.

FOR THE GENESEE FARMER.

TRIFLES, NO. I.—"*Trifles make the sum of human things.*"

In allusion to the number of letters, it has quaintly been said that an *ague* is two-thirds of a *plague*. I heard a physician say the other day that his patient had the ā*g*—(ague,) giving this word a sound that would rhyme with plague, and seemingly not aware that by *shortening* the latter, the sound is *lengthened*. The true pronunciation is plāg and ā'gu.

APPEARANCE OF THE SKY.

We published some time since an article on this subject from the New-York Courier. The following from the same paper is in reply to that article, and is published at the request of a correspondent:

GENTLEMEN—I have read with a great deal of attention, the communication of your correspondent F., and being accustomed to notice atmospheric changes, I venture to make a few observations on his extraordinary letter. I was somewhat surprised to find so bold a theory broached, apparently for the purpose of elucidating the prevalence of the formidable disease, which is at present making such devastating progress. I could have wished that your correspondent had illustrated his speculations with more perspicuity—as it is difficult to ascertain after the most careful perusal of his letter, whether the "paleness of the sun's light"—the "absorbtion of the red and yellow rays by an upper stratum of air"—or "the permanent and persisting mist of the East"—are separately or collectively the cause of the pestiferous state of the atmosphere—to say nothing of the various inferences drawn from these phenomena—and of the total absence of any experiments.

Nothing is less difficult than to attribute to some occult cause any general or local effects—and it was not necessary to imagine the *four clements in labor*, to produce a sky, "like a sponge of loosened vapor"—that the laws of nature should be suspended in order that the inhabitants of New-York should continue for six weeks as "in the first steps of the shadow of an eclipse"—or that the light should lose its properties because some *hypocondriac* imagines himself an "*etiolated* plant."

Your correspondent might have ascertained in two minutes, by direct experiment, whether the yellow and red rays are *less* either in brightness or quantity than heretofore. Since reading his letter I have taken a prism, and have ascertained that those rays are as brilliant as usual, and occupy the same space in the spectrum—not the least diminution can be perceived. The atmosphere also during the latter part of June, and to the 12th or 14th of this month, was remarkably clear and transparent—so much so, that the Catskill mountains, and even the mountain house was rarely obscured, although nearly forty miles distant—the evenings have invaribly been splendid—never did the heavens "shew forth her million suns," to greater advantage than during the last few weeks—so that had there been any thing like "permanent mist in the East," or any other quarter, it could not have escaped my observation.

But supposing the atmosphere at New-York to have presented at a particular time all the appearances that F. notices—how is it possible that it should have continued for six weeks—or even for six hours—currents of air from the sea and from the land, from the rivers and from the mountains, are constantly passing over it. So that, however pestilential the atmosphere may be at a particular place, the very laws of nature operate so as to displace and disperse its malign influence—

"The universal cause,
Acts not by *partial*, but by general laws."

With regard to clouds those of the *cumulus* kind have not been so numerous—but I am at loss to know by what method of induction your correspondent proves that the "air cannot brace them" as well as those that are stratified. As to those having "edges, ragged and divergent" depend entirely upon the position of the observer—as a cloud that may have this appearance at New-York, will assume every variety of conformation to those who are a few miles east, west, north or south of it. I am still more puzzled to

know by which mode of reasoning the cumulus clouds "*imbibe the principle of heat and rarefaction*," more than other classes of clouds—this has not been proved by experiment, and their very position in the atmosphere indicates the absence of such principle.

I have not yet communicated with "the animal or the insect tribes," and therefore do not know whether "*the usual fire and vivacity*" of the former, or the "*animation*" of the latter, have undergone those extraordinary changes that your correspondent has been so particular in observing; nor have I noticed "the skies and the air blanched in lustre,"—much less that the "crepuscular sunshine appearing at once with all the clearness of day; and surely our organs of sight must have strangely lost their powers, not to have discovered, during the last *fifteen years*, that the sun's rays, with their "dim, feeble and imperfect radiance effused over the earth," was the constant accompaniment to the cholera!!

Mr. F. wishes to know "whether the same peculiar absence of *yellow* in the sunshine has not already been noticed where the cholera prevails"—as if he had by direct experiment proved its absence in N. York. Setting aside the strange idea that supposing it to be true, that therefore, *the absence* is the *cause* of the cholera—with just as much probability might it be supposed that the pyramids of Egypt were built by pigmies,—that the firing a pistol would occasion an eruption of Mount Etna,—or that a cloudless summer's day was the certain forerunner of an earthquake.

I am, gentlemen, yours, respectfully,
July 25, 1832. X. Y. Z.

From the New England Farmer.

DRAINS.

Drains used in agriculture may be divided into two kinds, open and covered. They should be of a size and depth proportioned to the extent of the tract which it is wished to drain, and the probable quantity of water for which they are designed to be channels. They should, generally be carried through the lowest and wettest part of the soil. It is a rule in making drains, to begin at the lowest place, and work upwards, by which means the water will pass from the workmen, and point out the level. The mud and other materials, which are dug out of a ditch or drain, should not be suffered to lie in heaps by the side of the ditch, but should be spread as equally as possible over the surface of the drained land. In some cases, it will be expedient to transport the earth taken from ditches to the farm-yard or the hog pen, to form a part of that layer, which good farmers generally spread over those places, to imbibe liquid manure, or make into compost. In many instances, it is asserted, that the earth dug out of ditches, is worth enough for manure, to pay the expense of digging the ditches.

Open drains often answer the purpose not only of conveying off superfluous water, but serve for inclosing fields. But they make a hazardous and inconvenient fence without the addition of a bank, hedge, or railing. The *Farmer's Assistant* says, "When a ditch is made for a fence, it ought to be four feet wide at the top, one or less at the bottom, and about two and a half feet deep; with the earth all thrown out on one side, and banked up as high as possible."—Sir John Sinclair states, that "it is a general rule, regarding open drains, with a view of giving sufficient slope and stability to their sides, that the width at top should be three times as much as that which is necessary at the bottom; and in the case of peat mosses, or soft soils, it should be such as to allow the water to run off without stagnation, but not with so rapid a motion as to injure the bottom."

The American editor of Sir John Sinclair's *Code of Agriculture* observes, that "The most expeditious, effectual, and economical mode of making a drain would undoubtedly be, to use oxen, and a *scraper*, or ox-shovel, as it is sometimes called,—an instrument well known in this country in the making of roads. In some cases, this mode might not answer, as in very miry grounds, and lands just cleared of timber. But where lands are very miry, if the process is begun at the outlet of the water,—and there, indeed, it ought always to be begun,—the next adjoining portion will, generally, be made so dry as to allow being trodden upon in a proper season; and in this way a drain may by degrees be carried on towards the center. In nineteen cases out of twenty, drains may probably be effected in this mode. Where the ground will admit of it, two men and a boy, and two yoke of oxen, will accomplish more business of this sort in a day, than half a dozen men in the same time, with only spades and shovels.—Wherever the labor of cattle can be substituted in this country for human labor, policy requires it to be done. The surface of wet and miry land is usually full of inequalities; if a *scraper* is employed in draining them, the earth taken from the drain is easily landed in any hollow spot which needs to be filled; and if there are no such hollows, or they have already been filled, the earth may be spread over the surface in such a manner as to do the most good. If the earth is not wanted for other purposes, it is recommended to drop and spread it, if practicable, in such a manner as to leave the general surface of the land sloping towards the drain, that the water may the more readily incline towards it, and pass off. At some distance below the surface, in peat grounds, there is usually found a hard stratum of earth, called, in the common language of our farmers, *hard pan*. The hard pan, if ploughed into, scraped out, and spread on the surface, would greatly improve the texture of such soils. This furnishes another argument in favor of using the scraper in draining, for in no other way can the upper earth, taken out of the drains be so cheaply removed, and put on the adjoining; nor in any other way can the hard pan be so easily broken up and carried off; nor in any other way, oftentimes, can suitable earth be so well obtained, for the purpose of spreading it over the surface with a view to improve the texture of the soil. If the object be to pile the earth from the drains into heaps, with a view to composts, this purpose is completely accomplished by means of the scraper."

To make a covered drain, dig a channel between thirty and thirty-six inches wide at the top, and six inches, or the breadth of a spade, at the bottom, and three feet deep, giving it just descent enough to make the water run briskly. Fill it half full or more of small stones, thrown in at random, and cover them with a layer of straw, leaves, or the small branches of trees with the leaves on them; then fill it up to a level with the surface, with the earth that was thrown out.

In forming small drains, chiefly for retentive soils, the common plough may be used. A mode described in *Young's Annals of Agriculture*, from very ample practice, is this: he says, when he has marked the drains in a field, usually a rod asunder, he draws two large furrows with a common plough, leaving a balk betwixt them, about fifteen inches wide; then, with a strong, double-breasted plough, made on purpose, he splits that balk, and leaves a clean furrow fourteen or fifteen inches below the surface; but where the depth of soil requires it, by a second ploughing he sinks it to eighteen or twenty inches; it is then ready for the land-ditching spade, with which he digs, fifteen inches deep, a drain as narrow as possible. But the method followed by some farmers, who do not possess ploughs made on purpose for the work, is this: with their common plough, drawn by four or five horses, and usually stirring about four or five inches deep, they turn a double furrow, throwing the earth on each side, and leaving a balk in the middle. This balk they raise by a second bout, in the same manner; they then go in the open furrow twice, with their common double-breast plough, getting what depth they can. After this, they shovel out all the loose mold and inequalities to the breadth of about a foot; and thus having gained a clear, open furrow, the depth varying according to the soil and ploughs, but usually about eight or nine inches, they dig one spit with a draining spade sixteen inches deep, thus gaining in the whole twenty-four or twenty-six inches. But as this depth is seldom sufficient, when necessary, they throw out another, or even two other spits, which makes the whole depth from thirty to forty inches.—*Loudon.*

Turf-covered drains may be made as follows: Turn up a deep furrow with a strong plough, clear the sod from the earth thus turned up, reduce it to about three inches in thickness, and then place it in the furrow from whence it was taken. The grassy side being placed uppermost, there is a hollow beneath, sufficient to discharge a considerable quantity of surface water, which readily sinks into it. This mode of draining is used on the sheep farms of the Cheviot Hills in England, and is recommended by Sir John Sinclair. It would not answer, however, in lands exposed to the tread of heavy cattle, as they would be apt to push their feet through a covering of turf of no more than three or four inches. Perhaps, in a few years, the verdure would thicken, and the sward strengthen over drains of this kind, so that there would be nothing to apprehend from the tread of the heaviest animals.

Cultration of drained land.—It is well known that swamps, marshes, and other low lands are commonly places of deposit for the lighter and more fertile parts of the soil, washed from the neighboring hills. Many marshes are in fact intervale land, naturally too wet for profitable cultivation. Wet lands, which receive the wash of higher grounds of tolerable quality, may be expected to be worth considerable expense in draining. A bog, however, on the top of a hill, not overlooked by high ground, we should suspect of barrenness, and would not be at great expense in draining it, without examining and analyzing the soil in various parts, and becoming satisfied of its fertility. But a drained marsh, which can be flooded at the will of its owner, by means

of a dam at its outlet, with water which has washed the neighboring uplands, may be considered as inexhaustible, and, perhaps, had better be appropriated to the raising of hemp. That plant exhausts the soil very much, and it would, therefore, be good economy to raise it where the land can be recruited without manure from the farm-yard, &c. If the land is rich, not very dry, or water can be set back in the ditches, in a dry time, to within three or four feet of the surface, it will be quite an object to introduce fowl meadow, (*Agrostis stricta.*)

It is often advisable to let drained lands lie over one season to ferment and rot, before any attempt to cultivate them. Flooding them completely in the winter, and drawing the water quite off rather late in the spring, will likewise assist in rotting the sod.

THE BRITISH DOMINIONS IN NORTH AMERICA, by Col. Joseph Bouchette, Surveyor-General of Lower Canada; 2 vols. 4to.—We have already copied one or two notices of this splendid and costly publication from British journals; and now, having looked through a copy of it, are enabled to give a more particular account. This valuable topographical & statistical work is in two volumes quarto, embellished with landscapes and plans of towns and harbors, &c., and is accompanied with elaborate geographical and topographical maps of the British possessions, on a large scale, including therein a considerable section of the northern United States, chiefly bordering on the River St. Lawrence, and the Lakes Ontario, Erie and Huron, and on which is satisfactorily delineated the boundaries of the two countries, *as claimed by each* respective Government. Judging by a cursory glance at the literary execution of the work, with a perusal of several extracts in the English papers, it appears to be written in an easy and agreeable style, and marked by such sentiments of liberality and good feeling as proclaim both the breeding and the scholarship of the writer. The tone in regard to this country, whenever alluded to, appeared to be of cordial respect; and we cannot but unite with an intelligent correspondent in regretting that so valuable a work should not yet have found a circulation throughout the United States, particularly as so much of its subject matter cannot fail to be of deep interest among us. The unsettled question of the boundaries is treated of extensively, and what is of equal importance at least, the valuable connexion of these colonies with the United States. In short, to adopt the words of our correspondent, "the mass of substantial information presented in these volumes, is of a character to interest, not only the statesman, but also the merchant, agriculturist, the emigrant and the tourist; in fact, it is the most valuable work extant, as a topographical and statistical exhibit." This work has attracted the attention of the British public, in a way that must be highly flattering to the accomplished author; and when we mention, that while the price in England is 3 or £4, it may be obtained here for 22 shillings sterling, when a number of sets are taken, we trust that a publication so creditable to translantic, if not Ameican talent, will meet with that patronage on this side of the water which it so richly deserves.—*N. York American.*

A little wealth will suffice us to live well, and less to die happily.

Rochester Prices Current.

Wheat per bushel	87 1-2
Flour per barrel	5 50
Pork, Mess, per barrel	11 00
do Prime do	9 00
Beef per cwt.	3 00 to 4 00
Lard " do	8 00
Cheese do	6 to 8 00
Butter do	12 to 13 00
Hams do	7 50
Pot Ash, per ton,	85 00 to 88 00
Pearls,	95 00 to 98 00
Apples, green, per bushel	12 1-2 to 37 1-2
Potatoes do	31 to 35
Oats	31
Corn	69
Rye	75
Barley	56
Hay per ton	10 00

From the N. Y. Journal of Commerce.

REVIEW OF THE MARKET.

For the week ending Sept. 1.

With Particular Notices of Actual Sales.

Ashes, have advanced during the week in consequence of an increased demand. We notice a lot of about two hundred brls. sold on Saturday at 4,90. Some small lots of pots and pearls have been sold at 5.

Hemp.—The demand very limited. Small sales at 190*a*200 for outshot, and clear at 200*a*210.

Provisions.—The demand is steady at our quotations; 100 kegs Lard were sold on Saturday at 10c Butter and cheese come in freely

Seeds.—Flaxseed very little in market—held at $11*a*12 per cask; Timothy at 13*a*14.

Wool.—Nothing doing.

Corn Exchange—Our market is better supplied with Flour, and at the close of the week sales were rather heavy at our quotations; corn meal same as last; Wheat, N. R. $1,20*a*1,24; Va $1,30*a*1,33; new N. C. $1,25*a*1,27; Rye 75*a*78; yellow corn, 75*a*76; white, 75; southern 70; Oats 45*a*46

Freights.—The rates continue nominal. Small vessels find employment readily. Cotton to Liverpool ¼d per lb.; Havre, 7-16 and 9-16 per lb—Ashes $6 per ton; Rice $10 per ton; Flour 75 cts per bbl

Business is becoming more lively. Daily, people are coming into the city and resuming their business, which gives a pleasing change to our city.

From the Journal of Commerce.

NEW YORK CATTLE MARKET.

Monday, Sept 3.—At Market this day, about 750 head of Beef Cattle, 1000 sheep and lambs, 200 swine, and a small number of Milch Cows. The market for Beef was pretty fair, and prices ranging from $6 to $7, according to quality.—Sheep: we quote prices from $2½*a*$4: Lambs, $1½*a*$2½. Milch Cows, scarce and in some demand. Swine from $3½*a*$3½ cts. per lb.

The Cholera is evidently subsiding, not only in this city, but almost throughout the country. There is no considerable town in the Union except Baltimore, and perhaps Washington, where it is not decidedly abating. The number of deaths in Philadelphia, according to the last returns, was 4; Albany, 1; Utica, 2; Norfolk, 6; Portsmouth Va., 1; while in New Haven, Providence, Newport and Boston, only a few cases have occurred from the first. There is some reason to hope that the last mentioned towns or most of them, will escape without many additional cases. That the disease will spread to the South and West, is probable; and we fear that among the negroes of the Atlantic coast it will make extensive ravages. The bills of mortality in Norfolk, Portsmouth, Washington, show a great disproportion of cases and deaths among the colored population, as compared with the whites.—*Jour. of Com.*

IMPROVED DURHAM CATTLE.

THE subscriber offers for sale Calves got by his famous Improved short horned Durham Bull *Young Admiral* (from Boston, Ms.) from thorough bred cows of high pedigree

Also... Young stock Yearlings and two year old Bulls and Heifers, got by his fine Bulls *Eclipse* and *Albion*—crosses with the North Devon and Durham. Several two year old Heifers with calf by Young Admiral.

Horses. The subscriber also offers for sale a fine brood Mare, two Fillys and one yearling horse colt of good pedigree L. JENKINS.

Canandaigua, Sept. 1-f3w

STRAWBERRY PLANTS.

THE following varieties of Strawberries, are for sale by the Editor of the Genesee Farmer, which will be packed in a suitable manner for sending to any part of this state, to Ohio or Michigan, at $2 a hundred.

Austrian Scarlet or Early prolific Scarlet, Roseberry, Black Hautbois, White Hautbois, Prolific Hautbois, French Musk Hautbois, Downton, True Chili, Methven Scarlet, Methven Castle, and Wilmot's Superb.

Also...Red Alpine or monthly without runners, one dollar per dozen.

20,000 Grape Vines of the choicest American and Foreign varieties, suitable for setting this fall.

The highest price paid for Cherry, Plum, and Peach stones; apple, pear, and quince seeds; orchard, Red top, and Timothy seed.

sept 4

SEED WHEAT.

THE subscriber having had a very uncommon production, both in quantity and quality, in two crops in succession, of the *White Bald Indiana Wheat*, feels no hesitation in recommending with the fullest confidence the said Wheat, to his brother Farmers, as the best sort now in use in this country for seed, particularly for good fallow ground; the growth being similar to the old kind of red chaff, but fills much heavier. The crop of 1831, gave about double to that of the Red Chaff, or White Flint, on no better ground; that of 1832 is at least one quarter more, from the same style of land, than either of the other kinds, and of better quality. Also this wheat having been raised for two seasons on the stiff marle soil, on the Big Ridge, will make a favorable exchange for many different soils of land, in this country. Great care has been taken to weed and prepare a part of this year's crop of said wheat in good order for seed. From eight to ten hundred bushels will be cleaned and ready for sale, at the barn of the subscriber, and also at the barn of Mr Elias Beach; both near together, on the Big Ridge, near the Canal, about 5 miles west of Rochester, by the 1st of September, (some probably before.) Also, about three hundred bushels of the *White Flint Wheat*, of very fine quality for seed, growth of 1832, on the marle soil, will be cleaned and ready for sale at my barn, by 1st September.

JNO. LAKE.

Greece, Mon. co., N. Y. Aug. 14, 1832. 34-4w

REPOSITORY of Useful Knowledge and American Almanac for the year 1832, for sale at a reduced price by

sept 5 HOYT, PORTER & CO.

ALLCOTT'S PRODUCE TABLES.

SHOWING the value of any quantity of Grain, estimated at sixty pounds to the bush. so arranged as to present at one view the value of the whole number of bushels and pounds at the same rate. For sale by

sept 1 HOYT, PORTER & CO.

REPORT

ON the Directors of the Liverpool and Manchester Railway, and observations on the comparative merits of locomotive and fixed engines as applied to railways; by Henry Booth. For sale by [sept 5] HOYT, PORTER & CO.

A NEW BOOK

MRS. TROLLOP'S Travels and Sketches of the Domestic Manners of the Americans, in one volume, 8vo. just received and for sale by HOYT, PORTER & Co

aug 24 6 State-street.

NOVEL COMBAT WITH A BIRD.

From the Cincinati Chronicle.

By a friend residing in Tennessee, we have been politely favored with the following account of a fierce and extraordinary contest between a man and a bird, which occurred on the banks of the Hatchee, not far distant from Bolivar. The gentleman to whom we are indebted for this narrative, is one of unimpeachable veracity. It is, perhaps, considering the character of the combatants, as unique and bloody a battle, as can be found on record.

"About three months since, a farmer living four or five miles up the Hatchee, was searching on the bottom land of that river, for strayed cattle, when he observed something of unusual appearance pass through the thicket, which he pursued, and soon discovered to be a large bird. The bird attempted to rise, but its wings becoming impeded by the bushes or cane, it had no chance to get off that way, and finding itself gained upon by its pursuer, it turned upon him.—Somewhat surprised by this unexpected attack, he started to run from it—tript and fell: the bird dashed at him, with wings beak and claws, and the man found it necessary to turn immediately on his face; but finding himself sorely annoyed by his antagonist, and his knife-blade coming out of the haft, (a shoe-knife,) he scrambled up and run, the bird pursued but a short distance, stopping at his hat, (which had fallen off in the flight,) on which he commenced a furious attack: after which he returned towards the water. A man of more than six feet high, and weighing about 280 lbs. to be beaten by a bird!—this would not do to tell. The blade of the knife was searched for, found, and fitted to the handle, and two sticks cut, one with a fork, to yoke the enemy's neck in advance, the other to strike him with.—The bird was soon found, and nothing loth, returned to the combat. The onset of the feathered biped was so severe and sudden, that the forked stick missed his neck, and only a sudden movement of the head, probably saved an eye of the man from the bill of the bird. The struggle now became most violent for the man had seized the bird by the neck, while the bird dealt him such blows with his wings, and so tore him with his claws, that a very coarse shirt was literally torn off his back. At last the bird was strangled, and lay *apparently* lifeless at the feet of the conqueror. While, however, he was taking breath and rest after his toil, his feathered enemy fell unexpectedly again upon him—having now revived: another struggle ensued—the *coup de coul* was resorted to a second time, with success; and the bird being again strangled, his adversary *gnawed his windpipe* in two, having lost his knife, and being completely tired of his contest.

"This is an interesting fact to ornithologists, and the curious generally. The bird was purely white, except at the bend of the wings—head bald—a bunch of feathers over the rump—bill 9 or 10 inches long—eight feet high—wings 9 feet from tip to tip—legs and feet resembling a turkey's, but stout—large knees and thighs—its cry very harsh, resembling, as my informant says, that of a jack ass! he declares "its *braying* was frightful." I have conversed with several persons who saw the bird after it was dead, one of whom has brought me several feathers, (which are white and beautiful,) and promised me a wing, both of which have been preserved; but the body unfortunately, was left for the hogs to destroy. The body and face of the man were examined two months after the *battle*, by a respectable physician of that place, and he asserts that the wounds strongly corroborated the story. I have no doubt of the facts. The bird was undoubtedly the Whooping Crane.

"Bolivar, Ten., July 8. 1832."

Upon turning to the article Crane (Grus) in the Encyclopedia Americana, we find the following notice of the Whooping Crane (Grus Americana):—

"The G. Americana derive their trivial appellation from their loud, piercing cry, which may be heard at the distance of two miles. If wounded, they attack the sportsman or his dog with great spirit, and are said to have occasionally driven their long, pointed bill through the hand of a man.—Wilson states that during winter, they are frequently seen in the low grounds and rice plantations of the Southern States, seeking for grain and insects. He met with them on the 10th of February, near Waccamau river, in South Carolina, and saw another flock near Louisville, Ky. about the 20th of March. They are very shy and vigilant, and consequently shot with difficulty.—They sometimes rise spiraly in the air, to a vast height, their mingled screams resembling a full pack of hounds, even when they are almost out of sight. They are distinguished from other cranes by the comparative baldness of their heads, and by the broad flag plumage projecting over the tail. The general color is pure white.

FEMALE INFLUENCE.

The following striking and eloquent remarks are from "*Suggestions on Education*," by Catharine E. Beecher.

Woman has been but little aware of the high incitements that should stimulate to the cultivation of her noblest powers. The world is no longer to be governed by *physical* force, but by *the influence which mind exerts over mind*. How are the great springs of action in the political world put in motion? Often by the secret workings of a *single mind*, that in retirement plans its schemes, and comes forth to execute them only by presenting motives of prejudice, passion, self interest, or pride, to operate on other minds.

Now, the world is chiefly governed by motives that *men are ashamed to own*.—When do we find mankind acknowledging that their efforts in political life are the offspring of pride, and the desire of self-aggrandizement, and yet who hesitates to believe that this is true?

But there is a class of motives that men are not only willing but proud to own.—Man does not willingly yield to force; he is ashamed to own he can yield to fear; he will not acknowledge his motives of pride, prejudice, or passion. But none are unwilling to own they can be governed by *reason*, even the worst will boast of being regulated by *conscience*, and where is the person who is ashamed to own the influence of the kind and generous emotions of the heart? Here then is the only lawful field for the ambition of our sex. Woman in all her relations is bound to "*honor and obey*," those on whom she depends for protection and support, nor, does the truly feminine mind desire to exceed this limitation of Heaven. But where the dictates of authority may ever control, the voice of reason and affection may ever convince and persuade; and while others govern by motives that mankind are ashamed to own, the dominion of woman may be based on influence that the heart is proud to acknowledge.

And if it is indeed the truth, that reason and conscience guide to the only path of happiness, and if affection will gain a hold on these powerful principles which can be attained no other way, what high and holy motives are presented to woman for cultivating her highest powers. The development of the responding facinations of a purified imagination, the charms of a cultivated taste, the quick perceptions of an active mind, the power of exhibiting truth and reason by perspicuous and animated conversation and writing, all these can be employed by woman as much as by man. And with these attainable faculties for gaining influence, woman has already received from the hand of her Maker those warm affections and quick susceptibilities, which can most surely gain the empire of the heart.

Woman has never walked to her highest destinies and holiest hopes. She has yet to learn the purifying and blessed influence she may gain and maintain over the intellect and affections of the human heart.—Though she may not teach from the protico, nor thunder from the forum, in her secret retirements she may form and send forth the sages that shall govern and renovate the world. Though she may not gird herself for bloody conflict, nor sound the trumpet of war, she may enwrap herself in the panoply of heaven, and send the thrill of benevolence through a thousand youthful hearts. Though she may not enter the list in legal collision, nor shapen her intellect amid the passions and conflicts of men, she may teach the law of kindness, and hush up the discords and conflicts of life. Though she may not be clothed as the ambassador of heaven, nor minister of the altar of God: as a secret angel of mercy she may teach its will, and cause to ascend the humble but most accepted sacrifice.

PETER THE GREAT.—He was indeed an extraordinary creature, aiming always at something vast, shrinking from no privations, deterred by no opposition of labor or difficulty. Meanwhile, conquering all outward difficulties, he was never able to conquer himself. The high-priest of all civilization, he was himself a barbarian. He was subject to the most violent excesses of rage, which took from him all power of self-control. At these seasons his servants and his ministers underwent severe personal chastisements from his own hands; and the fit frequently terminated in a species of epilepsy, which, for a time. deprived him of sense.—He was cruel and remorseless in the punishments he inflicted on those whom he regarded as delinquents, and even occasionally made himself sport from being the executioner of his own sanguinary judgments.—*Godwin's "Cloudesley."*

Biela's Comet according to the calculations of astronomers, is now in the immediate neighborhood of our system, and will soon be visible, if it is not so already. It will be nearest the earth on the 23d of October, distant about 51,000,000 miles. It will appear brighest about the 13th November. Its apparent course for a month to come, will be nearly due West. Its last periodical return was in 1826.